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INFORMA

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COUNTRY Syria/Lebanon DATE DISTR.

10 December 191

SUBJECT

Desire of Hembers of Syrian National Party in Regard to Dissolution of the Lebanese

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Chamber and Conclusion of an Anglo-Arab Treaty GIA LIBRARY

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- On 13 November 1948 Lutfi Haffar and Sabri Asali, former Vice Premier and Minister of Interior respectively, who had resigned from the Cabinet on 8 November at the request of the Mational Party which they represented. arrived in Beirut from Damascus. They were accompanied by Ahmad Zaki Mudarris and Ali Khani, former deputies who are members of the National Party in Aleppo. They visited 'Abd-al-Hamid Karamah, leader of the National Liberation bloc; Sami Sulh, cousin of Riyad Sulh; 'Umar Bayhum, a member of the opposition group; Alfred Nashshash, also a member of the opposition; and the Mufti of Lebanon, Muhammad Tawfiq Khalid.
- 2. These members of the Syrian National Party affirmed the necessity of dissolving the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, which they stated had been fraudulently elected, as had the present Syrian Chamber of Deputies which was about to be dissolved, and the Lebanese who were present agreed. The Syrians also spoke in support of a treaty between Lebanon, Syria, and Great Britain. Source states that Lutfi Haffar influenced his relative, Abd-al-Hamid Karamah, strongly on both of these subjects.

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